

## MRS. DENNEY TALKS ON COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

Interesting Discourses Occupy Latter Hours of Rally at the Courthouse This Morning.

Mrs. George W. Denney, of Knoxville, state chairman of the woman's committee, council of defense, was heard in an address at the woman's rally held today at the courthouse on the status of the organization she represents. Some misunderstanding has continued to exist, Mrs. Denney pointed out, concerning the relation of the committee to the various clubs. Its institution is not that of an organization but of a committee representation of all organizations and its function is to prevent duplication of report of war work and the forming of new organizations. The Red Cross and council are not rival organizations, but must work in harmony. However, the council is the only avenue by which report may reach the government, and it is up to its membership to obey orders. It is primarily a committee of home defenders, awaiting orders for field work.

After outlining some of its seventeen departments, Mrs. Denney went at length on the personnel of the general executive, composed of nine women, headed by Dr. Anna Howard Shaw. The organization will, however, be made to stand upon a new basis with a \$1 per annum paid membership. It is up to women of both county and city to work in harmony and for all organizations to forget likes and dislikes and forget everything but patriotic service. Mrs. Denney gave a review of the Nashville conference and regretted not having had the Chattanooga report given in. She paid high tribute to the large amount of war work being done in this city. Mrs. M. M. Allison, local chairman, then introduced Mrs. Alex Caldwell, of Nashville, state chairman of food conservation.

Mrs. Alex Caldwell, Choosing for her subject, "How to Garden," Mrs. Caldwell, who is not only a noted writer on agricultural subjects, but a practical gardener as well, told of her experiences in converting her flower garden into a veritable "beehive" and her daffodil garden into a silage plot.

"War gardens," she said, "must know no creed or nationality." Then she reviewed the work of a company of mill employes in the north who were uniting in cultivation of a single tract, although gardening directions

were given in a half dozen languages. What is being done in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia and other states, formed an interesting part of the talk. What the conditions that have brought about the necessity for home gardens in high cost of living and traffic congestion, as well as the need for feeding the armies of the allied nations, was brought out. The fact that it requires \$15,000,000 worth of food per day to feed such armies should be the argument for increased production in America, as well as the fact that England, France and Italy are on the verge of going on food rations.

"Miss Virginia Moore. Miss Virginia Pearl Moore, drafted by the government as a sent in home economics, told of five things necessary to win the war: Food, fuel, money, men and transportation. She showed in the last analysis that everything resolves itself into the food situation with the women behind the food. Women, she said, must prove whether the principles of democracy must win in voluntarily doing the things required, or must disgrace the country by having to be compelled. She paid tribute to Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Kruesi, who have had no wheat flour in their home since October. She charged her hearers to conserve the flour if they will not absolutely cut it out and above all encourage the sale of home grown potatoes.

Mrs. Mae Landess. Mrs. Landess took up this thread of Miss Moore's discourse and said she hopes to see a potato parade tomorrow in Chattanooga, since there are 30,000 bushels to be disposed of here at 2 cents per pound. He pleaded for the substituting of potatoes for flour and eating them every day, "Jack-in" and all, and three times on Sunday.

In conclusion, she spoke of the khaki-clad youths who had been weighed in the balance and found wanting, and found nothing wanting, either mentally or physically, and "we women are breaking the alabaster box at their feet," and we see the men of tomorrow singing the song that the shepherds sang on the hills over two thousand years ago, "Peace on Earth and Good Will to Men."

Mrs. Harry Lacey took Mrs. Powell Clayton's place on the program in telling of the work of the Red Cross. She told the large body of women before her that it was service that counted now and not fine clothes, family or position.

Mrs. Dennis Corby. Mrs. Corby, of Walnut Grove, told in a very fascinating way "What the Rural Woman Can Do to Help Win the War." By co-operating with the county demonstrator, was one way, by saving wheat another. There was not a country woman who had a cow or chickens who could not buy a Liberty bond, she said, if she wanted to. She said last summer their slogan had been for the country clubs for every family to have a garden, this summer it was for every member of the family to have a garden. Mrs. Corby was heartily applauded.

Miss Alma Bond, of Soddy, told how the country girl could help to win the war. She spoke most interestingly of the poultry club, and particularly of the canning and drying, as well as food conservation. Miss Bond delivered her address in an excellent manner and was easily heard all over the house. Prominent speakers, who followed her, made reference more than once to thoughts she had advanced.

Miss Virginia Moore, of the food administration, closed the morning

program in a brief talk on the conservation of money, fuel and the biggest of all, food.

Luncheon at First Methodist.

The body repaired to the First Methodist church, where a luncheon was prepared for over two hundred women. The tables were decorated in spring flowers and foliage. The children of the North Chattanooga Grammar school, under the direction of Mrs. J. H. Rennie, sang patriotic songs at intervals during the luncheon.

Before the regular program at the meeting Mrs. John Lanar Meek led in singing patriotic songs. Miss Lora Woodworth was the accompanist. Mrs. J. T. Jones, of Hixson, led in singing "America."

Members of the Y. W. C. A. war council and Junior club acted as usherers. They were Miss Anna Martin, Mrs. T. H. McClure, Miss Nancy Kirkpatrick, Miss Louise Spears, Miss Louise Llewellyn, Miss Keller Nolen, Miss Elizabeth Lupton and Miss Rosalyn Ewing.

After a week's session the conference of home economics agents closed this morning with a big mass meeting of women called by the woman's committee of the Council of National Defense. Mrs. M. M. Allison presided, and the meeting was opened with prayer by Mrs. Loring Clark. Mrs. Charles R. Hyde gave the address of welcome in very eloquent and beautiful language. She compared the passing of time since the war began a year ago with the swiftness of a weaver's shuttle, and said she would speak of some things that were not essential and some that were. Fine clothes was the first mentioned among the nonessentials, and here she illustrated how a girl in a red velvet evening dress had been shipwrecked and had to live on a coral reef for weeks, and the inconvenience her train gave her. She spoke of the Duke of Wellington living on the cliffs, and here she knew not of at the clubs, until when he saw his own chief prepare them he sickened at the sight and thereafter ordered plain dishes.

Unity Essential. Among the essentials the first was unity. "With us today we must work side by side against a common foe," said Mrs. Hyde, and spoke of the Red Cross as an open avenue through which all could work of singing songs to the soldiers, knitting socks to keep their feet warm, sending them books to read and piling high the flowers on the departed ones and comforting those left behind. All of these services she emphasized, were to minister to the boys who had gone out from home, but in order to do all things well "we must seek help from a higher source."

Mrs. Rutledge Smith. Mrs. Smith resented being introduced as the wife of Maj. Rutledge Smith, though she said this had occurred twice in the past week in her own county, where she thought she was well known. The burden of her message, she said, would be in the heart of a fact declared hundreds of years ago: "You are your brother's keeper."

The importance of little things was treated with great eloquence by Mrs. Smith, who said that a tiny stone thrown by a shepherd lad slew the giant, the blast of a ram's horn that gave victory to the Canaanites, and little springs united that made the great Mississippi, upon which the government is now spending thousands of dollars to control. "If one word I would say would arouse someone to do some small thing, I would count that a happy moment of my life," said Mrs. Smith. She said that there was no sacrifice save that of the boys who had gone forth to offer their lives. "So that when you are asked to buy bonds or thrift stamps, don't dare say you are making a sacrifice," said Mrs. Smith. "We who sit here at home are doing the little things, and if we do not do them we are not worthy of these boys." She referred to the organization of women dating back to the Biblical time, when the Egyptian midwives organized to save the male children of their land, who were doomed by a decree that had gone forth.

FONTAINEBLEAU FOREST MAY HAVE TO BE SACRIFICED French Historical, Artistic and Literary Circles Agitated by Question. Paris, Feb. 25.—(Correspondence)

Associated Press.)—Will the forest of Fontainebleau have to be sacrificed to military purposes? That question is agitating French historical, artistic and literary circles. There is little of these questionings in the practical military mind, and it is believed probable that before long the ancient forest will resemble a lumber camp on the Ottawa or the St. Maurice rivers. The drain of lumber during the present

war has been very great. With the difficulty in transportation growing more and more acute the supply of timber has had to be obtained from local tracts instead of from the virgin forests of northern Canada.

There is a pang of regret in artistic circles, but it is remembered that England has sacrificed without murmur the beautiful trees in the royal park of Windsor, and it is believed that unless

lumber can be obtained elsewhere under as favorable conditions, Fontainebleau is doomed.

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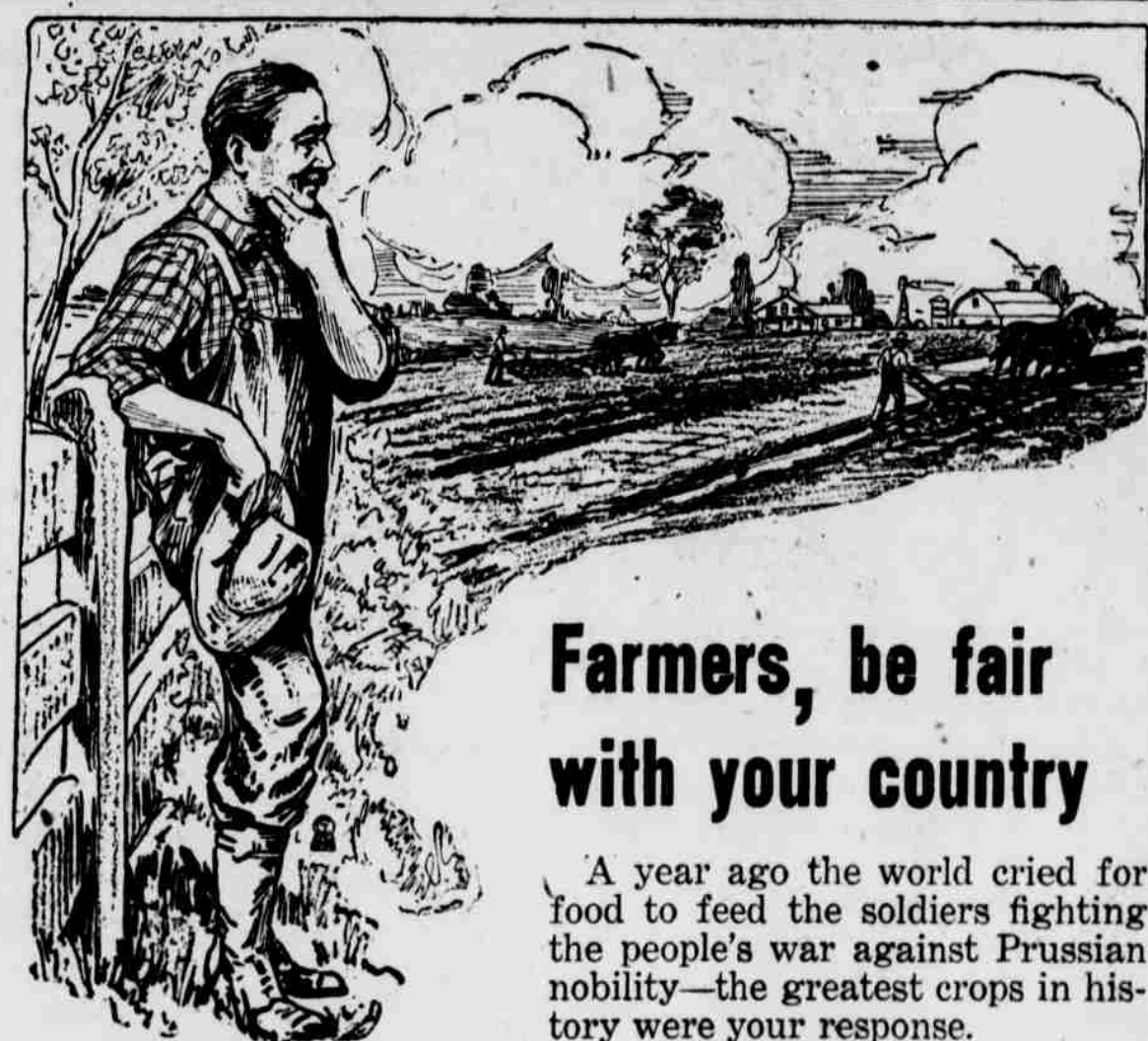
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